

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

policy which was hereby to question; but the very moment he had been made the victim of the very act he had so successfully practiced, he at once turned traitor and was ready to do anything to save himself. There was a time when, at the close of the Presidential term, though an unsuccessful candidate, or re-election, he at least showed the respect of the community, and was at least respected, but now he was despised and scorned his conduct, his name would have remained in the memories of his party, honored and respected. But now he was despised and scorned. He was despised because he sought to avenge his griefs by distracting the party which had given him all his distinction. The seeds of discontent which produced this program of ingratitude and oppression were sown in the minds of the masses since ripened into bitter fruit, and he has had the satisfaction during his forced retirement from the public arena, of seeing the fruits of his policy, and of knowing that the democratic party for many years after his death would cease to be heard in its councils. It was the spirit of resentment of himself and his household which led him to oppress and persecute his fellow citizens, and the Fugitive Slave act. Resistance to these acts was declared almost immediately after their passage by Congress, and the blood of the innocent was shed in the streets of our principal cities, and it was only by the resolute declaration of the government at Washington that the signing of a peace treaty with England was prevented. The discontent which had no long incubated time into the councils of democracy, though seemingly quieted, was still at work. The forms of union had been given up, and the people were ready to do anything to get work. Members of the same political household regarded each other with much hatred, seeming reconciliation was only a mask for the hatred, but never extinguished the distrust with which the brethren continue to regard each other to the present hour.

CROWFELL AND CAGGER.

The strife between the leaders of the two factions

armed with the strength derived from his supposed popularity, he was able to secure a position of local office, but it was equally attractive in city appointments. The State had been handed over, so far as the distribution of office was concerned, into the hands of a man who had no other qualities than those which became so prominent with the administration that places for their friends had been denied even to such men as had been able to secure positions of honor. Their preferences were given to free soilers, until the management of that faction, whenever an opportunity offered, became so glaring as to produce a general sense of indignation and a feeling of revolt.

RESULT OF PIERCE'S POLICY.

The result of this state of affairs soon became apparent. Elections held in States which had given large majorities for Pierce told an entirely opposite story, and deserted not merely the administration but the democratic party. And these changes had taken place in the first six months of the new Presidency, and a united democracy had in that brief period of time been split into fragments. The free soilers, seemingly sustained by President Pierce, became more and more unpopular, and the administration intolerant whenever they had an opportunity to bring that strength into exercise. At the September State Convention they appeared in force, but were not so well held as they had been in the previous year, and were obliged to nominate a separate ticket. Their influence was so intolerable that the hardes were not treated with decorum, and the administration was obliged to suppress them. The presumption was regarded as a thing which the general administration at Washington wished to suppress, and the names of George C. Bragdon and John C. O'Connor, the newly appointed Collector and District Attorney—both hardes, and whose appointments had been conferred under them or of a faction of which they were members—were never invited to address a soft meeting at Tammany Hall, which was decided by these gentlemen in terms of strong condemnation.

POOR PIERCE'S FRIEND FORNEY.
At the State election in New York immediately prior to the November election for President, Pierce, who was again in the field, dispatched his confidential friend John W. Forney to visit this city, and if possible to bring the two opposing factions into friendly relations. Forney, however, was disappointed, and was enjoying himself with fine flights and fine things, in company with the Council of Ten, and in joining in their laughing chorus over the pretensions of poor Pierce. He returned to New York, however, with a letter carried back to his employer the assurance that all was well, and that the vote for him in the convention was a sure thing.

DOUGLAS LOOMS UP—THE FEDERAL OFFICIALS LAUGHED AGAINST BUCHANAN.
The Cincinnati National Convention was approaching, and Douglas, who early in 1854, came prominently forward as a candidate for the prize, by the introduction of the famous Nebraska bill. Strange as it may appear, the north opposed him, because, while the hands were in favor of his passage, Pierce, who again was a candidate for the Presidency, was so constructed as to summarize to oppose it, and here again came up the negro agitation as one of the electrifying elements of the South, regarding it as a capital to commence with, threw it out as a bait for the free State of the North, and now about to be monopolized by the South. But the latter, through instructions of Pierce and their ignorance of the real meaning of the author, failed to understand the true purpose of the author, and the result was a change of Southern sentiment, it soon became evident that the Little Giant had—at least for the time being—committed a hard and bold stroke, Douglas was rated to his disadvantage. It will be recollected that the